

## New TWC Staff Members



"My name is Liz Imhoff, the new Social Worker at The Women's Connection. I studied at Xavier University and have worked primarily with the elderly. I grew up on the west side of Cincinnati. My husband and I have two dogs and I enjoy reading. The Women's Connection has been such a welcoming place to me and many others in the community. I'm very excited to join such a wonderful team." **Welcome, Liz!!!**

"I am Corrie van Amerongen, TWC's new Hispanic Outreach Specialist, who comes from Evendale. I recently returned from a two-year Peace Corps service in Ecuador. I served as a community health volunteer, teaching at an all-girls school and working for the Ministry of Health. As the Hispanic Outreach Specialist, I hope to increase membership at our bi-monthly Las Hispanas meetings, and to provide more support to the Hispanic community. I am really excited to be a part of The Women's Connection and to help the growing Latino population. I love to speak Spanish and try to do so at every possible opportunity!" **Welcome, Corrie!!**



## FYI



- Next year's Cabaret will be held April 16, 2011.
- 2010 Back-to-School Fair served 1180 children from 385 families.
- Bill and Mary Ellen Williams took part recently in an Immersion experience sponsored by the Sisters of Charity, and learned about the needs and wish list of TWC. On the occasion of Srs. Mary Jo Gasdorf and Ann Hunt's fiftieth anniversary as Sisters, they made a donation to The Women's Connection of a number of items from the wish list found on our website that could be used in our programs. We are sincerely grateful for their thoughtful remembrance.

## Planned Giving

In addition to your yearly and lifetime donations, The Women's Connection is most grateful to those individuals and families who have made a gift to TWC through their estate plans with planned giving. These gifts can be designated for a specific program or can be contributed to the general TWC fund to serve the most pressing needs of the organization. Such donations may also qualify for charitable gift tax deduction. Create your legacy at TWC. Consult your tax agent. *Thank you.*

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**Our Mission**

We are a neighborhood center providing support for change by educating, empowering, and enriching women, children and families.

**Our Priorities**

- ❖ To be a welcoming place
- ❖ To connect women and children with available resources
- ❖ To provide educational and personal growth opportunities that respond to community needs
- ❖ To initiate and promote collaborative programs and services within the community

## TWC Strengthens the Price Hill Neighborhood

The Women’s Connection opens its door each day to hope and possibility. We greet women, children and families in the Price Hill neighborhood. We meet new people and old friends. We learn of successes and pain. We see smiles and concerns. We offer hope, support and connection. Recently, we asked some of our participants an important question, “If The Women’s Connection did not exist, how would that affect your life?” Listen to what they said:

*“For one, it has helped with the socializing of myself and my children. I look forward to my Thursdays with my mom and sewing. My daughter looks forward to coming and playing with the other children. I have learned sewing and it makes having clothes for my children that much easier. If the “Connection” was not here I would spend the days rotting and wasting my time, and losing precious time with my daughter and mom doing absolutely nothing. I would spend hundreds on clothes for the kids and myself. I am thrilled to bits to say I made my son’s Baptism outfit! What could be more meaningful?” -Leslie*

*“If The Women’s Connection was not here for me to use the computer, telephone or copier, then I would still be in a position of no help, unloved and stuck to go nowhere in my life. I would be a person who did not care about me or others. If I could not look for employment, I would be homeless.” -Arnetta.*

*“Without TWC I would not be able to share my talent with other women. My hope is that what they learn will benefit their families and build their confidence in themselves. As a retired person, I want to give back to the community.” -Nancy.*

*“If TWC was not open, it would be very different for me, because it is close to my house. They have free job search and you can use the phones, and they have job fairs.” -Connie.*

*“Without the class at The Women’s Connection I would miss the companionship so important to me. This place helps complete me. I am learning patience, understanding of different cultures, and even a little Spanish. In a way, it’s the UN (United Nations)- there are so many different people from different backgrounds. I would miss the instructor’s and the time away.” -Barb.*

*“The Women’s Connection has been a blessing to me. Now I look forward to class; before I didn’t have a reason to do anything. Now, I have other women; we all talk about life and our family. Thanks to The Women’s Connection, I got connected!” -Diane.*

*“Without TWC I would not have taken advantage of meeting new people, and realizing I could accomplish this task.” -Sharon*

*Everyone at The Women’s Connection makes a difference. We work together to strengthen each other. May our door always open to hope and change.*

# 2010 Golf Outing



*The golfers are packing up and getting ready to tee off!*

A beautiful late summer day made it the perfect time to hit the greens for our 2010 Golf Outing at Deer Run Country Club. The golfers gathered for a quick lunch prior to the shot gun start at 1:00 and then had dinner after their rounds of golf where prizes were awarded for longest drives, closest to the pin, and overall winners. The spirit of generosity and enthusiasm was very evident as all of our attendees said they would be back in for next year's outing. Thank you to Bonnie and Don Hueneman and Janet Bretnitz for giving of their time and energy that day and to our hole and tee sponsors listed below:

## HOLE AND TEE SPONSORS

**Brigham & Brigham Co., L.P.A., GCB Architects, Home City Ice, Max Hofmeyer & Sons Plumbing, Mark and Julie Rudemiller, Sunrise Treatment Center, Skyline Chili - Bridgetown, Skyline Chili - Glenway**

## Late Nite Catechism II: *Sister Strikes Back!*

The performance hall at Seton High School was filled with laughter on September 11, 2010, when Sister came back and held class for her students in Late Nite Catechism II: Sister Strikes Back. 440 attendees took a nostalgic look back on their Catholic school experience. At the pre-party people had a chance to reconnect with friends old and new! Many thanks to Bonnie Hueneman, who chaired the event and her amazing team of volunteers who made the evening a success! We would also like to thank our sponsors and donors for their kindness and generosity.

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Mary Jo & Bob Westendorf



*Janet, Sylvia, Bonnie, Kathy, and Linda. A great team that made the pre-party a huge success!*



*S. Thelma Schlomer, SC*



*Trina Schapker-Niemer*



*Mary Kay Gilbert*

## Welcome to Our New Board Members

S. Thelma, a Sister of Charity, has been a math and science teacher in area schools for thirty-seven years. She works in the Finance office of the Sisters of Charity. She is committed to Price Hill, 'and would hope that my presence on the Board would add to the positive work being done at TWC'. Thelma will serve on the Finance committee.

Trina has experience working in public relations, marketing, and fundraising. She works at Elder High School as the Annual Fund Director. Because of her expertise working with non-profits, "I believe I can tell the TWC story to increase donor support and community awareness". Trina will serve on the Development committee.

Mary Kay says, "My belief in and commitment to TWC's mission of educating and providing resources to women will allow me to offer my skills in organizing, publicizing, networking and supporting others in their roles". Mary Kay will serve on the Development committee.



## Job Search Support News Flash

The Women's Connection Employment Connections program provides job search support in two important ways. First, we offer 1-on-1 support to those who ask for assistance in improving their job search, creating a plan of action, and taking steps to overcome their barriers to employment. Secondly, we provide a welcome place where all job seekers can: conduct their self-serve job search, use the internet and resume software, find out about programs serving job seekers in the greater community, bring their children along, and get computer support. During the month of July we conducted a survey to determine the exact nature of the work being done in the job search support program. The results show how TWC supported job seekers in our neighborhood in **ONE MONTH!** Sixty-six individuals volunteered to respond. Here are the results:

- 195 online job applications were completed
- 11 individuals completed their first resume or a new resume
- 51 open job leads were provided from our job board
- 23 participants received 1-on-1 support from a TWC staff member (35%)
- 49 reported that they had no other place to go to work on their job search if it had not been for TWC (74%)
- 58 felt supported by TWC staff while working in the center (88%)
- 28 reported learning something new while at the center (42%)

## Hispanic Recipe

On July 28th, the Hispanic Women's program cooked up food using fresh produce from the Price Hill Community Gardens where they have been working with gardener, Melody Wolf, all spring and summer to grow fresh produce. Shown is a picture of one of the items they prepared, called Pico de Gallo. Enjoy the recipe! ¡Buen Provecho! (Bon Appetite/Enjoy)



### PICO DE GALLO

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 cups seeded, diced tomatoes
- 1/4 cup diced red onion
- 1 tablespoon diced jalapeños
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- Juice of 2 limes
- 2 tablespoons cilantro, plus extra for garnish
- Salt and pepper

**Directions:** In a bowl combine all ingredients. Serve on top of beans & rice or use for a chip dip.

## Girls' Groups Keep Involved in the Community

Summer 2010 began their group involvement. 48 girls registered to learn about neighborhood opportunities and to work in the community garden at the Price Hill Recreation Center. Imago Earth Center provided earth education. They learned about the animals at the Newport Aquarium and experienced American History through the *America I AM* exhibit at The Cincinnati Museum Center. One of their favorite activities was a poetry open mic session, which helped them tap into their creativity and have their voice be heard. They wrote original pieces and performed them. The girls enjoyed a cook out at Dunham Park to celebrate the end of the summer; several families came out to enjoy the fun.

## Girls' Club and Girls' Life

The Girls' Club and Girls' Life sessions have new hours. Girls' Club meets Monday and Wednesday from 3:30-5:30 p.m., and Girls' Life meets Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30- 5:30 p.m. The girls and the coordinator planned an activity for their **Open House, October 6th from 5:45-7:00 p.m. for their friends and families.** During the next few months, the girls will participate in many activities including collaborations with *girls inc*, Women Writing for a Change, National Make a Difference Day, Keep Cincinnati Beautiful and DARE. Field trips will include a trip to Gorman Farms and Festival of Lights.

## Girls Night In & Teen Moms

The Girl's Night In (GNI) workshops take place on the **1st Thursday of each month from 6:00-8:30 p.m.** Upcoming topics include: Conflict Resolution, Self Awareness and Pampering. The **Teen Mom Group started new hours this fall, every 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 6-8 p.m.** The 2nd Wednesday of September young moms learned the importance of reading to your baby from a Price Hill librarian.

### Sewing Class Expands

Our machine sewing classes are very popular. An evening class, a series of six sessions, now meets on Monday evening from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at our Learning Center. It is a beginning class. For information, call Ann at 471-4673 x 19.

**Healthy Moms & Babes** is an agency collaborator with The Women's Connection. Carol Hafner, an RN, is available at the Learning Center on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 9:30-5:00 to provide pregnancy testing, information for women who find themselves pregnant, or for those seeking added information, free of charge.